

Minutes From a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life

Held on September 29, 2000

AD 131 10:00am Loyola Campus

Present: Dr. D. Boisvert, Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, , Ms J. Calder, Mr. R. Côté, Ms M. Drew, Mr. C. Dubois, Mr. A. Gagnon, Dr. S.M. Graub, Ms A. Kerby, Mr. S. Nazzal, Ms J. Raso, Ms T. Ryan, Ms N. Sajnani, Dr. F. Shaver, Mr. C. Schulz, Mr H. Zarins, Mr. Aubé, Ms C. Boujaklian, Mr. W. Curran, Ms K. Hedrich, Ms L. Lipscombe, Ms P. Posius, Ms L. Toscano

Absent with Regrets: Dr. J. Jans, Ms S. Navidad, Ms L. Stanbra

Absent: Mr. T. Keefer, Ms M. Hussein

Guests: Mr. K. Pruden, Ms J. Mosher

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Boisvert asked that item 4.1 Subsidies in Trust Funding Proposal be moved to New Business as item 8.3. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Dr. Graub and seconded by Mr. Nazzal.

The Motion was carried unanimously

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Boisvert welcomed everyone to the first CCSL meeting of the year. He spoke briefly about Student Services and drew Council's attention to the Student Services brochure, Student Services organization chart and the Mandate of CCSL, which had been distributed for Council's information. He noted that because CCSL is a parity body, students have a significant voice in issues that affect the university and ultimately themselves. He encouraged all members of council to participate fully in this important process.

Dr. Boisvert also took the opportunity to remind Council that today was the annual "Concordia Shuffle" and he encouraged everyone to participate in whatever way possible!

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF May 5, 2000

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms Kerby and seconded by Ms Ryan.

The Motion was carried unanimously

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.2 Assessment Report Update: Mr. Côté said that as the assessment teams are still active, the reports are expected in the near future. Mr. Côté also confirmed that there was student participation on assessment activities.

4.3 Student Participation in University Governance Report:

Dr. Boisvert confirmed that he had forwarded the Student Participation in University Governance Report as endorsed by CCSL to the Rector. However no action as of yet had been taken on the recommendations, specifically the notation on the student record and the bursary. Ms Sajnani asked if a follow-up measure could be taken to ensure the report doesn't fall into a "black hole". Dr. Boisvert said he would report back to Council.

4.4 Draft Policy on Demonstrations Update:

Dr. Boisvert explained that this item had been on the agenda for approximately a year. At the April 7, 2000 CCSL meeting a committee, to be chaired by Ms Mistie Mularkie of the CSU, was mandated to prepare a formal response to the draft policy for the May 3rd CCSL meeting. However to date only a preliminary report has been received. It was also noted that the committee had never officially met. Dr. Boisvert felt that a year was a long time and he urged Council to move ahead with this issue. Mr. Aubé expressed his concern about not having a policy in place to deal with demonstrations. Dr. Boisvert felt however, that the university would deal with any potential demonstrations in the spirit of the policy. Mr. Schultz recognized the importance of a CSU response to this policy and that time is of a premium. This item will be on the agenda for the November CCSL meeting and it is expected there will be a response to the draft policy from the CSU at that time.

4.5 Mezzanine Renovation Update:

Mr. Pruden said that as there were a number of problems including logistical that made it impossible for the new Mezz to be operational by September 2000, the plan is now to commence the renovations in the Spring of 2001. This will ensure that the Mezz is ready for use in September 2001 and also that the renovations will not interfere with the summer activities of the Job Bank and Off-Campus Housing Service which are currently located in that area. In an answer to question by Mr. Nizzal, Dr. Boisvert confirmed that the plans for the Mezz renovations were approved by the CSU. Mr. Pruden again extended an open invitation to Council to view the plans in his office.

4.6 CSU Off-Campus Housing & Job Bank Revised Report:

Dr. Boisvert reminded Council that although the transfer of the 99-2000 subsidy of \$20,600 was approved at the May 2000 Council meeting, the CSU had been asked to provide a more comprehensive report for the year 99-2000 at the CCSL meeting on September 29, 2000. This report was expected to include complete information on the budget and detailed statistics on usage. As Ms Navidad was not present, Ms J. Mosher distributed copies of the report and gave a brief overview of the service activities. Ms Calder asked if there was specialized information for international students. Ms Mosher thought it would be beneficial if she could meet with the ISO office to discuss any concerns and to explore ways to improve the service. Dr. Graub said she would like to foster more interaction between CAPS and the Job Bank. Ms Kerby asked if a field indicating wheel-chair accessibility could be added to their housing data base.

Dr. Boisvert thanked Ms Mosher for her presentation. However, as there was still budget information missing from the report, he asked that Ms Navidad provide this information for the year 99-2000 as well as submit the budget for 2000-01. He asked that this information be made available for the November 3rd CCSL meeting.

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Dr. Boisvert asked if there was any particular service or area that Council would like to hear from at the November 3rd meeting. As an interest was expressed in hearing from the student affairs areas of the Faculties, Dr. Shaver and Dr. Jans will provide a brief presentation for the next CCSL meeting.

Questions were asked concerning composition and mandate of the Committee to Recommend on the Future Development of the Registrar's area. Dr. Boisvert confirmed that the Vice-Rector Services had mandated this review. Dr. Boisvert will follow-up with Mr. Di Grappa and report back to CCSL.

Ms Posius reminded Council that the Centraide Campaign had begun and as Concordia has always had a long history of social involvement, she encouraged the community to get involved and participate in the many activities planned.

Ms Lipscombe spoke briefly about the "Used Book Web Site" which is a new initiative of the Concordia Bookstores that affords students the opportunity to buy or sell used books. She encouraged the student associations to contact her if they wished to set up "links" with their web-sites. Another new program being introduced on the web is the "Book Review". A student can enter his/her thoughts/critiques on various books. This will then allow publishers and faculty the opportunity to hear what students think. As well there is a "Bookstore Line of Credit" which has been set up in conjunction with Financial Aid for needy students who fit the criteria.

Mr. Côté invited Council to attend the October 4th Orientation which introduces new students to the many services and programmes available to them and facilitates their transition to the university.

Mr. Gagnon informed Council that Counselling & Development would be holding a "Career Games" on the Mezzanine on October 12th. He encouraged Council to drop by to see how the career planning process is made fun!

Ms Kerby informed Council that Services for Disabled Students had been notified "unofficially" by the Government that there will be access to additional government funding over the next three years. There would be an amount of up to \$45,000 now and an amount of approximately \$100,000 over the next three years. The funding is earmarked to improve facilities for the hearing impaired and other disability services.

6. STUDENT LIFE ISSUES

Mr. Nazzal expressed concern with the poster policy. He felt it effectively curtailed any possibility of student associations successfully advertising their events or activities. Dr. Boisvert agreed that the concern is a valid one. However he reiterated that this is an on-going problem with many issues involved. Mr. Pruden informed Council that he has been working on a revised poster policy and would table the revised policy for discussion at the November CCSL meeting.

Mr. Nazzal briefly explained the situation concerning the Muslim prayer space. He was concerned there was no **permanent** prayer space that could accommodate the large turn-out for the Friday prayers. The Friday prayer space allocation is "class-room space" under the jurisdiction of the Applied Human Sciences Department. The space is made available with

the provision that if the department requires the space, their needs would take precedence. Mr. Nazzal acknowledged that "bumping" has only occurred a few times but it is a concern. He would like an official contract for the space. Mr. Schultz added that the Muslim women also require space for Friday prayers and that the present space is inadequate to meet all the expressed needs. Dr. Boisvert said he will review all the existing documentation and he will address the issue with the concerned parties as soon as possible. Council was in agreement.

Concern was expressed concerning the traffic-jams at the escalators, especially the Hall Building, 4th Floor. Dr. Boisvert suggested that perhaps Ms Boujaklian could bring this issue to the attention of the new Director of Physical Resources, Mr. P. Bolla, as well as the Office of Environment Health and Safety.

Ms Boujaklian informed Council that Phase I of the retro-fitting of the lighting system in the corridors of the Hall Building has been completed with the result that the out-put of light has been doubled. Phase II (classrooms) should commence in the near future.

As it was now nearing noon, Council decided to table for the November meeting:

7. Report from the Chair of the Recreation & Athletics Board
- 8.1 1999-2000 Student Services Financial Statement

8. NEW BUSINESS

83. Subsidies in Trust Funding Proposal:

Dr. Boisvert confirmed that CCSL had allocated an additional \$100,000 for student initiated projects for 2000-01. As CCSL had given Dr. Boisvert the authority to deal with emergency requests over the summer, Dr. Boisvert confirmed he had allocated \$15,000 to the People's Potato. Dr. Boisvert drew Council's attention to the document – Report to CCSL on the Increases to the Subsidies in Trust Account, 2000-2003. There were a number of concerns expressed that must be dealt with by CCSL. After a brief discussion, it was decided to table further discussion of the document to the November 3rd meeting. However, in the interest of time, it was decided to appoint the representatives to the committee now. Ms Kerby felt the student membership on the committee should be drawn from CCSL. Ms Raso felt it was important that each faculty had representation. Ms Ryan pointed out that as the appointment of student representation on CCSL is normally drawn from the various Faculties.

Mr. Zarins moved, seconded by Mr. Nizzal that the composition of the committee be as follows:

- 1 Director (chair)
- 4 undergraduate students
- 1 graduate student

The Motion was carried unanimously

The appointments are as follows:

Mr. Roger Côté	Chair
Mr. Sami Nizzal	undergraduate – Engineering & Computer Science
Mr. Chris Dubois	undergraduate – Commerce & Administration
Mr. Chris Shultz	undergraduate – Arts & Science
Ms Jennifer Raso	undergraduate - Fine Arts
Ms Tiffany Ryan	graduate student

It was decided that the committee would recommend to the Dean of Students and the Dean would implement any decisions. Mr. Côté said that although the parameters should be set by CCSL, he hoped that the committee would have a chance to meet before the next CCSL meeting in order to “brain-storm” and therefore bring any concerns they may have to the meeting.

Ms Raso asked when decisions would be made concerning the funding allocations, specifically the People’s Potato. Mr. Côté indicated that the end of November seemed feasible. Ms Hedrich added that the fee allocation for People’s Potato should be released by the first week of October.

9. NEXT MEETING: Friday, November 3, 2000 10:00am AD 131 (Loy)

10. TERMINATION OF MEETING

A motion to terminate the meeting was made by Ms Kerby and seconded by Ms Ryan.

The Motion was carried unanimously